

BOOK 5

GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

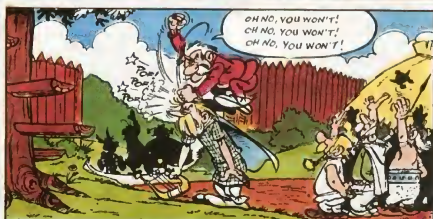
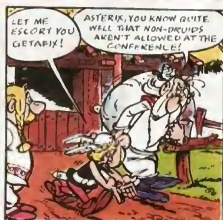
Asterix

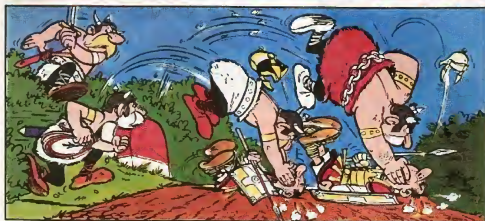
AND THE GOTHS

Asterix



HODDER DARGAUD





WHILE THESE SERIOUS FRONTIER INCIDENTS ARE TAKING PLACE, OUR FRIENDS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO THE FOREST OF THE CARNOTES...



WE'LL SOON BE THERE. YOU SEE, IT WAS QUITE AN UNEVENTFUL JOURNEY!

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY...

I'M A BIT PECKISH...



OH! WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE!

A WILD BOAR?!



FRIENDS, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO MY OLD FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE, THE BRITISH DRUID VALUADDE TAX!

OH, SAY! DELIGHTED, I'M SURE!

COME ALONG, VALUADDE TAX! I'M GOING TO AMAZE YOU WITH MY DRUIDICAL PROWESS!

WAIT TILL YOU SEE MINE, OLD BOY!



**HALT!
WHO GOES
THERE?**



A ROMAN PATROL!

SHALL WE GET THEM?



NO, NO, OBELEX. WHILE THE CONFERENCE IS ON THERE'S A TRUCE WITH THE ROMANS.

LET US PASS, DECORION. WE ARE DRUIDS GOING TO THE FOREST OF THE CARNOTES.



THAT'S YOUR STORY, JUST PROVE IT!







Our mission is to capture the best Gaulish druid. We'll take him back across the border, and then, with the help of his magic, we'll plan the invasion of Gaul and Rome...



THE FOREST OF THE CARNITES IS SWARMING WITH DRUIDS IN MERRY MOOD, ALL DELIGHTED TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN...



EVERY OAK TREE IS FULL OF DRUIDS HARD AT WORK CUTTING MISTLETOE WITH THEIR SICKLES...



THEY TALK SHOP, THEY DISCUSS SPELLS...

YES, MY DEAR FELLOW, I PICKED UP THIS SICKLE IN A LITTLE SHOP IN

SO THEN, OLD MAN, MY PRESTO! I TUNED HIM INTO A MENNIK!

DMORIGUM! LOOK, IT'S GOT A SAFETY CATCH.



THEY EVEN INDULGE IN JOKE'S AND TRUN'S... IN SHORT, THEY ARE HAVING A GOOD TIME.

THIS FOOD'S A BIT SICKLE-Y!

PASS ME THE CELT!

IT MUST BE HIS GAUL BLADDER!

MIENNR A TRUE WORD IS SPOKEN IN JEST!



THEN, AFTER THE GREAT BANQUET...

SILENCE, BROTHERS, SILENCE!



BROTHER DRUIDS, THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO BEGIN OUR GREAT CONTEST TO EVALUATE NEW METHODS AND ELECT THE DRUID OF THE YEAR...



AND WHILE THE DRUIDS PREPARE THEIR MAGIC POTIONS...



...GREEDY FIBS ARE WATCHING THEM...

Now comes the interesting part!



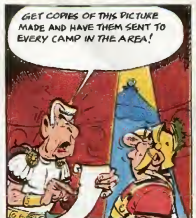














SURE ENOUGH! TOTAL DISORDER REIGNS IN THE FOREST. THE ROMANS CAN'T SEE THE WOOD FOR THE TREES, AND THE ONLY ONES WHO ARE NOT WORRIED ARE THE BARBARIANS...









LOOK!! A FAT ONE AND A LITTLE ONE!
VISIGOTHS!!!

YEH! GOTHS!
WHY THE FERT
TERRA?

HMM?
HMMMMMMMMMM!!!



YES, I SEE IT ALL!
THOSE TWO GOTHS HAVE
BEEN CAPTURED BY A
LEGIONARY. HE'S GONE
FOR REINFORCEMENTS
TO TAKE THEM TO CAMP
AND COLLECT THE
REWARD.

AH, VISIGOTHS!



WE'LL TAKE OVER FROM
HERE. THEY'RE ALL READY
FOR US, BOUND AND
GAGGED...

AND WE'LL COLLECT
THE REWARD!

HMMMMMM



DISHONESTY
IS THE BEST
POLICY...

HMMMMMMMMMMMM!

VIDEO MEL IORA
PIKROGUE
DETEKURA SERIUC.



MEANWHILE...

LET'S GET A MOVE ON!
I'M AFRAID OUR TRICK
WILL SOON BE
DISCOVERED!

NIC! I'VE GOT HICCUPS
NOW... NIC! GIVE ME A
FRIGHT, ASTER... NIC!...
ASTERIX!



AS FOR THE GOTHS, THEY ARE
GETTING MORE PUZZLED ALL
THE TIME...

BECAUSE MY GOOD MEN YOU
HAVEN'T BY ANY CHANCE SEEN
THESE TWO?

?



AND STILL
MEANWHILE...

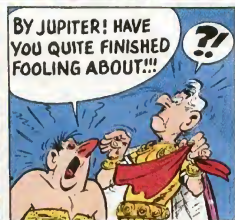
WE'RE COMING
TO THE CAMP...

HOW PLEASED
THE GENERAL WILL BE!



AVE, GENERAL! TWO
LEGIONARIES WANT TO SEE
YOU THEY'VE CAPTURED
SOME PRISONERS... GOTHS!

SEND 'EM IN, BY MERCURY!
SEND 'EM IN!
I'M DELIGHTED WITH THEM!



AS SOON AS THE ROMANS KNOW THAT THE GOTHS THEY ARE LOOKING FOR ARE DISGUISED AS ROMANS, THERE IS COMPLETE CHAOS... THE ROMANS GO ABOUT CAPTURING ONE ANOTHER...

I'M A ROMAN!
I'M A ROMAN!
I'M A ROMAN!

GO! YOU, YOU BARRARIAN!

THE UNHAPPY GENERAL LANTANKERUS IS NEARLY OUT OF HIS MIND.

THEY'RE ALL QUITE (HICK AND I'M THEIR LEADER! SOB! SOB)

I'M TAKING YOU IN, GOTH!

YOU OFF YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING!

BUT SOME PEOPLE ARE MAKING THE MOST OF THE SITUATION, FEW INCLUDING ANSTREY AND ORSLEY, WHO HAVE PUT THEIR OWN CLOTHES ON AGAIN.

...AND THE GOTHS, THE ROOT OF ALL THE TROUBLE, WHO ARE PROCEEDING UNEVENTFULLY TOWARDS THEIR OWN COUNTRY OF GERMANIA

Watch out! The frontier's ahead. We've got to cross it!

A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY LIES ON THOSE WHO GUARD THE FRONTIER AGAINST FOREIGN INVADERS.

Gaul
Roman Empire

Germania

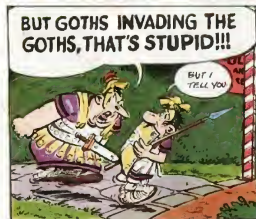
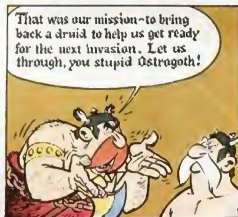
Hey!

ANNAH?

BONG!

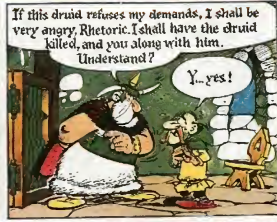
Victory is ours!
We'll be given a hero's welcome by our own people!

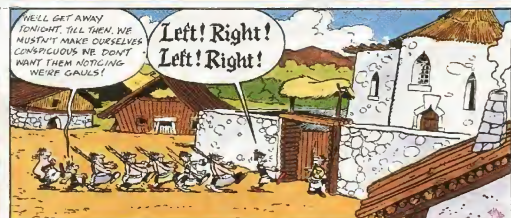
Anything to declare?

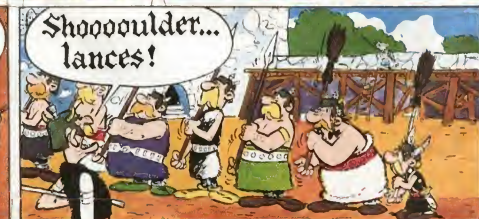






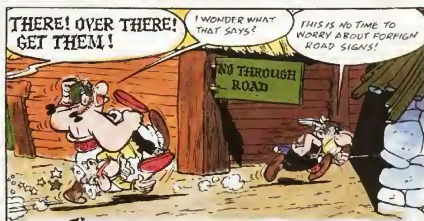


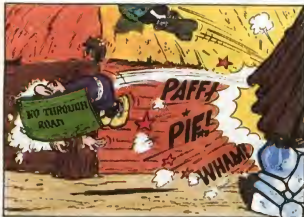


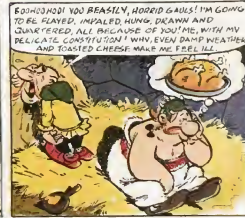














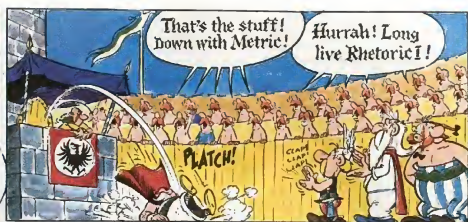


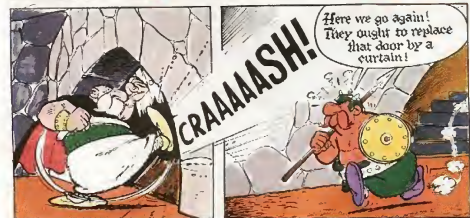




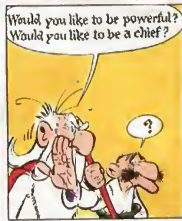
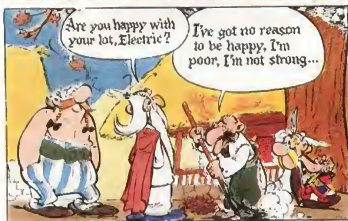
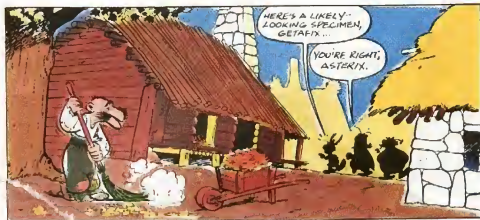














NOTHING THEY'LL ALL BE IN THE SAME BOAT BEING MORE OR LESS EQUAL THEY'LL GO ON FIGHTING EACH OTHER FOR CENTURIES... AND THEY WON'T STOP TO THINK ABOUT INVADING THEIR NEIGHBOURS



SOME OF THE CHIEFS



Metric

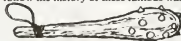


Rhetoric

THE ASTERIXIAN WARS

A Tangled Web . . .

The ruse employed by Asterix, Getafix and Obelix succeeded beyond their wildest dreams. After drinking the druid's magic potion, the Goths fought each other tooth and nail. Here is a brief summary to help you follow the history of these famous wars.



The favourite and devastating weapon of the combatants.



Diagram indicating the course of events.



The first victory is won outright by Rhetoric, who, having surprised Metric by an outflanking movement, lets him have it - bonk! - and inflicts a crushing defeat on him. This defeat, however, is only temporary.



Rhetoric has no time to celebrate his victory, for, having completed his outflanking movement, he is taken in the rear by his own ally, Lyric. Lyric instantly proclaims himself supreme chief of all the Goths, much to the amusement of the other chiefs . . .



Who turn out to be right, for Lyric's brother-in-law Satriac lays an ambush for him, pretending to invite him to a family reunion and Lyric falls into the trap. It was upon this occasion that the proposition that blood is thicker than water was first put to the test . . .



Rhetoric goes after Lyric, with the avowed intention of "hashing him up" (archaely), but his rearguard is surprised by Metric's vanguard! Bonk! This manoeuvre is known as the Metric System.



General Electric manages to surprise Euphoric meditating on the conduct of his next few campaigns. Euphoric's morale is distinctly lowered, but he has the last word, with his famous remark, "I'll short-circuit him yet!"



While Electric proclaims himself supreme chief of the Goths, to the amusement of all and sundry, it is the turn of Metric's rearguard to be surprised by Rhetoric's vanguard. Bonk! Bonk! This battle is famous in the comment of the exasperated Metric.



In fact, it is so bad for his system that he allows himself to be surprised by Euphoric. The battle is short and sharp. Euphoric, a wily politician, instantly proclaims himself supreme chief of the Goths. The other supreme chiefs are in fits . . .



Euphoric, much annoyed, sets up camp and decides to nuke. He is surprised by Eccentric, who in his turn is attacked by Lyric, subsequently to be defeated by Electric. Electric is destined to be betrayed by Satriac, who will be beaten by Rhetoric.



Going round a corner, Rhetoric's vanguard humps into Metric's rearguard. Bonk! Bonk! This battle is famous in the Asterixian wars as the "Battle of the Two Losers". And so the war goes on . . .



MEANWHILE, OUR THREE FRIENDS ARE APPROACHING THE FRONTIER OF GAUL, WITH THEIR MINDS AT REST...





WHERE ON EARTH HAVE THEY GONE?

IT'S ALL QUIET...



HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?



ASTERIX! OEBELIX! GETAFOX!

THEY'RE BACK FROM GERMANIA!

ALIVE TOO!



AFTER WHAT THE DRUID VALLUARDEIAH TOLD US, WE THOUGHT YOU WERE LOST FOR EVER... WE WERE IN MOORNING!

WE ARE DEEPLY TOUCHED, O CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX!



NOW FOR THE BANQUET TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF THE CONQUERING HEROES.

I WILL NOW COMPOSE AN ODE.

AND LATE INTO THE NIGHT THERE IS FEASTING, LAUGHING AND DRINKING, AS OUR FRIENDS EAT BORE AND TELL THE WHOLE STORY OF THEIR ADVENTURES SINCE YOU KNOW IT ALREADY, WE THINK THE TIME HAS COME FOR US TO LEAVE YOU... BUT NOT FOR LONG!



AND THEN 'TEEHEEHEE!' - THEN ASTERIX SAID - HA HA! - HE'S... HO, HO!... HE'S GOT A FREE HAND NOW! HO! HO! HO!

SOMEONE GIVE HIM ANOTHER ROAR, OR HE'LL START TELLING US ALL OVER AGAIN!

THE END